



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were trending unchanged to lower. Trade sentiment was weak in the Northeast, about steady to barely steady elsewhere. Retail demand was mostly slow and disappointing to fair even at sharply discounted levels. Food service was fair to good. Supplies were sufficient to ample with smaller sizes burdensome in the Northeast, but in the West, heavier sizes were in the longest position. In the parts structure, availability for wings was balanced to short with active trading. All other items were irregularly available with fair movement. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob to first receivers at major market areas week of 12/6-12/11/99 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A (Including branded product)			COMPOSITE	
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	TFEWR	—		
Chicago	51.00-53.00	48.50-61.00	53.33	21
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—		
Cleveland	TFEWR	—		
Denver	63.50	—		
Detroit	TFEWR	—		
Los Angeles	64.00	—		
New York	53.00-56.00	—		
Philadelphia	TFEWR	—		
Pittsburgh	TFEWR	—		
St. Louis	TFEWR	—		
San Francisco	64.50	—		

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	57.50-59.00	43.50-59.50	57.89	85
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GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 58.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
666	50.00-63.00	58.03
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	135.00	3,999
BREASTS - WHOLE	70.50	2,070
THIGH MEAT - B/S	69.00	610
LEG QUARTERS	20.00	8,680
WINGS	74.50	2,863

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady to barely steady. Demand was slow to fair with trading still minimal, especially for Wogs. Supplies were adequate to fully sufficient for limited trade needs. In the parts structure, dark meat items were sufficient with leg quarters moving best. Wings were more balanced yet maintaining good movement, and breast items were more than adequate for the light interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices were unchanged. Trading for next week's deliveries reported at generally unchanged prices on regular commitments with new negotiations unchanged to sharply lower. Offerings of light weights generally adequate with heavy weights ample. Demand by stores for whole body fairly good where features in progress or planned otherwise fair; fairly good for parts, best by fast food. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. Trade sentiment was about steady on parts with leg quarters in the weakest position.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's trading were unchanged into Chicago and TFEWR elsewhere. Whole fryer trade sentiment was steady to barely steady. Offerings adequate or available. Movement into retail channels was slow and disappointing. Food service demand moderate to fairly good, most receivers reporting a return to normal business following the holiday. Parts trading active on wings, light to fair on leg quarters and whole breasts. Supplies balanced to short on wings, at least adequate on all other items. Trade sentiment fully steady on wings, about steady on the balance.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYER Trucklot buying activity on ready to-cook whole broiler/fryers was light as buyers showed little interest for product even at very attractive prices. Offerings were more than adequate to available. Retail and distributive movement showed little to no improvement for the first of the month. The market tone was weak. In the parts market, all items were at least adequate with boneless, skinless breasts in the weakest position.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased slightly entering the weekend, but remained insufficient to bring the readily available sellers offering into satisfactory balance. Live supplies remained at least moderate; weights were mixed in a full range of light to heavier than desired. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were 2 cents lower at 56 to 68 cents. Trade sentiment was generally weak. In the parts complex, leg quarters were in fairly good balance. Breast items were fully adequate to ample. Wings were irregularly balanced, but at least adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	49-73
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	60.68
NO. OF BOXES	9,534
CUMULATIVE	11/29/99-12/03/99 62.46
	11/30/98-12/04/98 62.31
NO. OF BOXES	11/29/99-12/03/99 45,918
	11/30/98-12/04/98 32,430

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

DEC 02, 1999

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

DEC 03, 1999

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	622	120.00-183.00	125-135	131.81	672	120.00-183.00	125-135	131.39	3,045	132.62
TENDERLOINS	106	125.00-170.00	-	147.92	222	125.00-200.00	130-135	164.59	614	154.54
BREAST - LINE RUN	79	66.00-74.00	66-68	66.81	79	66.00-74.00	-	66.81	443	67.31
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				340	57.53
LEGS	47	24.00-34.00	-	25.49	87	24.50-34.00	25-26	25.26	355	24.65
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	261	15.00-19.00	15-16	16.24	461	15.00-19.00	15-16	16.27	1,739	16.37
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,281	17.50-22.00	19-20	20.06	1,441	17.50-22.00	18-20	19.94	5,742	19.93
WINGS (WHOLE)	108	65.00-73.00	-	68.68	108	65.00-72.00	65-68	68.31	584	69.86
WINGS (CUT)	522	80.00-92.00	83-85	85.45	513	80.00-90.00	83-85	84.95	2,365	85.39
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				96	30.35
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				47	21.00-34.00	-	22.94	173	23.73
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				10	63.00-72.00	-	63.35	291	64.78

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS*****
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR DEC 02, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

TRADING FOR DEC 03, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE		TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
35.00 - 40.50		37.37	32.50 - 40.50		36.96	36.99

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity failed to show any significant improvement for the weekend and first of the month. Offerings continued at least adequate to ample and boneless, skinless breasts were in the longest position. Retail and distributive movement was very slow and scattered features did little to stimulate interest. The market tone was barely steady to weak.

PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

DEC 02, 1999				WEEKLY				DEC 03, 1999	
ITEM	CURRENT NEG	WTD		CURRENT NEG	WTD			WTD	
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130-135	134.82	429,620	130	137.01	429,760	135.08		2,049,100
TENDERLOINS	130	133.43	95,840	130	134.36	99,250	133.55		481,740
BREAST - WITH RIBS	60-61	70.62	221,000	60-61	70.67	225,720	70.26		909,920
BREAST - LINE RUN	60	66.37	89,800	60	64.05	59,080	63.98		689,560
LEGS	26-27	29.51	211,200	26-27	30.83	172,400	30.23		921,280
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	18.48	302,880	16-17	18.99	314,058	18.61		1,438,838
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	32.57	102,510	34-35	31.66	114,520	32.02		514,130
THIGHS	19-20	29.27	73,880	19-20	28.94	91,360	28.98		394,160
B/S THIGHS	70-71	75.62	32,440	70-71	73.45	52,520	74.19		204,510
WINGS (WHOLE)	71-72	80.20	231,080	71-72	80.70	255,480	80.41		1,126,280
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.04	54,800	10-12	12.08	75,560	12.04		284,320
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	40-45	44.79	47,440	40-45	44.51	61,080	47.43		270,070
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.85	75,130	55-60	59.78	74,300	59.29		358,420

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	12/03	12/02	12/01	11/30	12/01	11/30	11/26	11/24
ALA	4,203	3,870	3,898	3,807	5.13	5.12	2,249	4.81
ARK	5,180	5,123	5,224	5,036	4.84	4.88	4,071	4.67
DELMARVA	2,313	2,179	2,473	2,089	5.18	5.18	2,208	5.15
KY-LA-TN	2,213	1,811	1,806	1,826	4.47	4.52	1,328	4.41
MISS	3,089	2,775	2,781	2,807	5.12	5.15	1,646	4.93
NC	3,203	2,647	2,542	2,626	5.91	5.91	1,716	5.82
TEXAS	2,314	2,208	2,096	2,225	4.86	4.83	1,972	4.55
TOTAL	22,515	20,613	20,371	20,416	5.08	5.09	15,190	4.85

MON-FRI 104,678(A) 74,302(A)

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 03-Dec and 4-Dec-99 is estimated to be 33,685,000 up 47.78 percent from a week ago and down 0.8 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 22,794,000; last year 33,954,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week

ending 04-Dec-99 is estimated to be 158,310,000 head up 44.2

percent from a week ago, and up 4.0 percent from a year ago

(Last week 109,769,000 Last year 152,178,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	79-82
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	82-88
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	309
RABBITS-CUT UP	326

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	92-97
	DRY PACK	107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	98
	ICE PACK	91
DUCKS		149-166

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Nov. 20, 1999 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning

Food service

4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up

	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
Head	34,876	24,337	32,683
Avg Weight	3.83	4.80	6.27
% of total /1	38%	26%	36%

COMPARISONS

Last week	24,795	28,287	34,016
Avg Weight	3.77	4.76	6.02
% of total /1	28%	32%	39%
Same week, yr ago /2	32,170	22,765	36,974
Avg Weight	3.89	4.92	6.20
% of total /1	35%	25%	40%

To date/1999 1,466,347 1,429,444 1,871,491

To date/1998 1,562,811 1,658,218 1,378,876

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 27-Nov-99 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
HEAD	109,769(A)	1,364	846	2,210	387
AVGWT	4.97	3.53	7.92	5.21	6.73
LAST WEEK	145,519	2,080	1,512	3,592	469
YR AGO	111,417	1,364	919	2,283	378
AVGWT	5.13	3.39	7.85	5.18	6.64
TO-DATE/1999	7,087,305	96,629	66,307	162,936	20,691
TO-DATE/1998	6,848,897	94,236	59,103	153,339	21,145

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 140.3 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 111.1 million head or 29.2 million head less than or 79 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY-- DATE OF AUCTION NOV 30, 1999

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.44 - .60	Silkie	3.00 - 3.85ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.40 - .56	Pigeons	1.75 - 2.60ea.
Pekin Ducks	.40 - .54	White Pigeons	2.00 - 2.50ea.
Red Fowl 4-4.5	.50 - .62	Rabbits 4-6	.90 - 1.32
Red Fowl 5-6	.60 - .82	Rabbits 7-11	.90 - 1.22
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.50 - .78	Bunnies	1.00 - 3.00ea.
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.60 - .94	Guinea Pigs	4.00 - 6.00ea.
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.50 - .88	Kid Goats	30.00 - 45.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.15 - 2.05	Chukars	3.75 - 4.00ea.
Banty Roosters	2.00 - 5.75ea.	Pullets 4-6	.70 - .84
Banty Hens	1.50 - 3.50ea.		
Leghorn Hens	.18 - .24		

Total Coops Sold 518

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FED-STATE FOR WEEK OF 29-NOV-99

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	59-60	
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65-83	71-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA,RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices were unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady. Demand was fair to good. Sizes were in the desirable range. Slaughter schedules were at normal levels.

Prices to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in legs at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN

TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 29-NOV-1999

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
OCTOBER 23	155.9	148.3	105	5.06
30	153.9	148.5	104	4.97
NOVEMBER 6	156.6	148.3	106	5.12
13	150.2	144.2	104	5.02
20	147.3	140.5	105	4.97
27	111.1	140.3	79	4.97
YEAR TO DATE	7175.0	7111.8	101	
DECEMBER 4		143.6		
11		144.1		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 27-Nov-99

IN THOUSANDS
Broilers 2,510 HD, 14,734 lbs., Light Hens 201 HD, 734 lbs., Heavy Hens 18 HD, 142 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

W/E	12/04/99	11/27/99	%CHG	12/05/98	%CHG
Broilers	158,310	*109,769	+44	*152,178	+04
Cattle	678	585	+16	*661	+03
Hogs	2,029	1,778	+14	*2,166	-06

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Prices were generally unchanged. Demand was good for about adequate offerings. Supplies were clearing and reported as short at some locations. Trade sentiment was about steady to steady on light canners and usually steady to fully steady on heavy canners.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
24.5-26.25 MAJORITY	32.5-35 MAJORITY 34-35

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
26-27 MAJORITY	31-37 MAJORITY 36.25-37

EASTERN LIGHT Prices were unchanged. Demand was light for fully adequate to ample offerings. Processing schedules were normal. The undertone was no better than steady.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY HENS Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was only fair for generally adequate offerings. Processing schedules were normal. The undertone was mostly steady.

NORTH CENTRAL LIVE LIGHT HEN Prices remained unchanged with mostly prices at 0 cents. Offerings were at least adequate to ample for current processing needs. Many spent hens were finding their way into alternative sources of disposal. Trade sentiment steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT Plants worked full schedules with little open space through the first of the year. Offerings ample.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

<u>HEAVY</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(1)
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR	(2)
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR	(1)

<u>LIGHT</u>	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>
Eastern Light	0	(1)
Eastern Light	0	(2)
So. Central Light	TFEWR	(2)
No. Central Light	TFEWR	(1)
No. Central Light	0-.5	(2)
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

NEW YORK SEASONAL HOLIDAY ITEMS. FOR DELIVERY THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 1999.

CAPONS:

Supplies of USDA grade A frozen capons were in close balance. Processors were busy with December bookings. Prices were generally unchanged. Average weights were in a full range. Trade sentiment was steady.

DOLLARS PER POUND DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS:

6-9 LBS.	1.52-1.65	MOSTLY 1.56
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GEESE:

Supplies of frozen USDA grade A geese were in close balance to tight. Processors were packing against prior bookings for December holiday needs. Prices were generally unchanged. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Weights were mostly desirable.

DOLLARS PER POUND DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS:

6-8 LBS.	TFEWR
8-10 LBS.	1.62-1.75
10-12 LBS.	1.62-1.75
12 LBS. AND UP	1.62-1.75

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT